

Then, the Internal Revenue Service was under intense scrutiny for its sloppy reviews of tax-exempt organizations and their political activities. Mr. Werfel did his job in a way that improved trust in the Internal Revenue Service.

He worked with both sides of the Senate Finance Committee. Our investigation found that both left-leaning and right-leaning groups were affected. The late Senator Orrin Hatch, a friend to many in this Chamber, told me on a number of occasions how much he appreciated Danny Werfel's professionalism and his open door for all sides.

It is time to rebalance the American system of tax enforcement. Audits today, too often, are a burden that fall heavily on working families—on nurses and firefighters and teachers and the middle class. It is far too easy for the very wealthy and the multinational corporations, which have armies of tax lawyers and accountants, to get away with cheating and breaking the law. That is what the Democrats sought to address in the Inflation Reduction Act.

Now, I understand that not everybody in the Chamber shares those priorities. However, Mr. Werfel—and I will close with this—has committed to the Finance Committee that he is going to work with both sides of the aisle and bring transparency to the job. That includes how the IRS will spend funding to improve taxpayer services, upgrade information technology, and crack down on those wealthy tax cheats. He is going to protect confidential taxpayer data. That is an enormous priority for both sides. I think I am about as big a privacy hawk as there is here in this body, and it is certainly a priority of mine.

Danny Werfel is a highly qualified nominee. He has agreed to take on one of the toughest and most scrutinized jobs in public service. I urge my colleagues to now support Danny Werfel's nomination to head the Internal Revenue Service.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON WERFEL NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Werfel nomination?

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH).

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 50 Ex.]

YEAS—54

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Booker	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	Kelly	Shaheen
Cantwell	King	Sinema
Cardin	Klobuchar	Smith
Carper	Lujan	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Tester
Cassidy	Menendez	Tillis
Collins	Merkley	Van Hollen
Coons	Murkowski	Warner
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Warnock
Duckworth	Murray	Warren
Durbin	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Grassley	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	Young

NAYS—42

Barrasso	Fischer	Mullin
Blackburn	Graham	Paul
Boozman	Hagerty	Ricketts
Braun	Hawley	Romney
Britt	Hoeven	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Manchin	Tuberville
Daines	Marshall	Vance
Ernst	Moran	Wicker

NOT VOTING—4

Feinstein	McConnell
Fetterman	Risch

The nomination was confirmed.

(Mr. HEINRICH assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the Simmons nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of James Edward Simmons, Jr., of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

VOTE ON SIMMONS NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Simmons nomination?

Ms. HASSAN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 51 Ex.]

YEAS—51

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schatz
Brown	Kelly	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Cardin	Klobuchar	Sinema
Carper	Lujan	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Collins	Markey	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murphy	Warner
Durbin	Murray	Warnock
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Warren
Graham	Padilla	Welch
Hassan	Peters	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Reed	Wyden

NAYS—43

Barrasso	Fischer	Ricketts
Blackburn	Grassley	Romney
Boozman	Hagerty	Rounds
Braun	Hawley	Rubio
Britt	Hoeven	Schmitt
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Capito	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lankford	Thune
Cotton	Lee	Tuberville
Cramer	Lummis	Vance
Crapo	Marshall	Wicker
Cruz	Mullin	Young
Daines	Murkowski	
Ernst	Paul	

NOT VOTING—6

Booker	Fetterman	Moran
Feinstein	McConnell	Risch

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PETERS). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the Kahn nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Maria Araujo Kahn, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

NOMINATION OF MARIA ARAUJO KAHN

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote on the nomination of Justice Maria Kahn, who has been nominated to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Since 2017, Justice Kahn has served as an associate justice for the Connecticut Supreme Court. Over the past 6 years, she has authored over 55 opinions. Prior to her appointment, she also briefly served on the Connecticut Appellate Court, where she authored eight opinions. Justice Kahn began her judicial career on the State's Superior Court in 2006 and presided over thousands of matters, 50 criminal trials, and several civil trials.

Prior to joining the bench, Justice Kahn spent her entire time in practice in government service. She began her legal career as a deputy assistant public defender for the Connecticut Public